CLAIMS:

1. Method of forestalling long time-outs in a process run on at least a first computing device in a network, which process makes calls for processing to a second computing device, and comprising the steps of:

sending a request for status to a second computing device, and

in case of no response on the request for status from the second computing device automatically blocking requests for processing of data to be sent the second computing device.

2. Method according to claim 1, including the step of generating a request for processing of data which causes the sending of the request for status.

3. Method according to claim 1, wherein the request for status comprises a request for information about a network connection of the second computing device and the response on the request for status comprises information about the network connection from the second computing device.

4. Method according to claim 1, further including the step of setting a time limit within which the response to the request for status is to be received and the step of blocking requests for processing is performed if no response is received within the time limit.

5. Method according to claim 4, wherein the second computing device has a time limit within which responses are to be sent to the first computing device and the time limit within which the response is to be received is between two and three times longer than the send time limit of the second computing device.

6. Method according to claim 1, further including the step of setting a time limit within which a request for status is to be sent and the sending of a request for status is performed when this time limit expires.

7. Method according to claim 1, wherein requests for status are sent using a simplified first protocol and requests for processing are sent using a second standard protocol.

8. Method of determining status of a computing device used for receiving calls for processing from another computing device via a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for status from the other computing device,

generating at least one response to the request, and

sending the response to the other computing device.

9. Method according to claim 8, wherein requests for status and responses to these requests are received and sent using a first simplified protocol.

10. Method according to claim 8, wherein the step of generating includes generating more than on response within a request time limit without waiting for further requests.

11. Method according to claim 10, wherein the time for responding to a request is reset each time a request for status is received.

12. Method according to claim 10, wherein the other computer has a send time limit determining when requests for status are to be sent and said request time limit is between one and two times longer than this send time limit.

13. Method according to claim 8, further including the step of setting a time limit for sending a response and sending the response when said time limit expires.

14. Computing device for connection to other computing devices via a network comprising:

an application unit performing computational tasks and making requests for processing to another computer device,

a status determining unit connected to the application unit and arranged to

send a request for status to the other computing device, which other computing device is to perform a computational task for the application unit, and

automatically block request for processing of data to the other computing device if no response is received from the other computing device, which request for processing is caused by the application unit.

15. Computing device for connection to other computing devices via a network and comprising:

an application unit performing computational tasks for another application unit when being requested to do so by the other computing device, and

a status responding unit arranged to

receive a request for status from the other computing device,

generate at least one response to the request, and

send the response to the other computing device.

16. System of computing devices including at least a first and a second computing device connected to each other via a network,

the first computing device comprising:

an application unit performing computational tasks,

a status determining unit connected to the application unit and arranged to

send a request for status to the second computing device, which second computing device is to perform some computational tasks for the application unit, and

automatically block request for processing of data to the second computing device if no response is received from the second computing device, which request for processing is caused by the application unit,

the second computing device comprising:

an application unit performing computational tasks for the first application unit, and

a status responding unit arranged to

receive the request for status from the first computing device,

generate at least one response to the request, and

send the response to the first computing device.

17. A program product comprising a computer readable medium, having thereon: computer program code means, to make a computer execute, when said program is loaded in the computer:

sending of a request for status to another computer, and

in case of no response on the request for status from the other computer, automatically blocking requests for processing of data to the other computer.

18. A program product comprising a computer readable medium, having thereon: computer program code means to make a computer execute, when said program is loaded in the computer:

receiving a request for status from another computer,

generating at least one response to the request, and

sending the response to the other computer.